

According to the Mississippi Agricultural Statistics Service, there were 3.4 days suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending March 25, 2001**. Wet weather has delayed the planting of row crops in many parts of the state. Soil moisture was rated 3 percent short, 61 percent adequate, and 36 percent surplus.

Progress In Percentages						Conditions in Percentages				
Item	Event	This Week	Last Week	2000	5-Yr Avg	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn	Planted	28	--	55	26	--	--	--	--	--
Wheat	Jointing	42	--	60	51	3	6	39	36	16
	Heading	0	--	5	2					
Hay						4	13	50	27	6
Cattle						3	13	33	43	8
Pasture						4	20	38	31	7

County Agent Comments

“Some field work has begun on sandy fields. If rain holds off some soybean planting will begin next week. Freezing conditions this past winter hurt some late planted wheat. Most wheat was fertilized the first week of March and is beginning to grow.”

— Mack Young, Quitman County

“Producers began planting corn in earnest this week. Many burn-down applications are being made in preparation for large acreage of cotton planted limited till. Livestock producers welcome warmer weather since hay supplies have been exhausted.”

— Tim W. Pepper, Yazoo County

“Hay conditions are extremely short. We are beginning to get some ryegrass and fescue growing. Soil conditions have been too wet for much ground preparation to occur.”

— Ed Williams, Oktibbeha County

“Fields were drying up, but we received rain during the weekend. Corn planting and other field preparations are being delayed due to wet weather.”

— Windell C. Carter, Jefferson County

“Rain continues to keep farmers out of the fields. However, no one is complaining because of the dry year we had in 2000. Winter grazing is responding well to warmer temperatures and adequate rainfall.”

— Victor Lee, Newton County

“Tractors hit the field during the latter part of the week. Early maturing variety soybeans, corn, and some grain sorghum were planted this week. Cattle have struggled through this winter and hay supplies have run out in most cases.”

— Jimbo Burkhalter, Tallahatchie County

“Still too wet to get in fields, even for burn down. Hay is about all gone. Ryegrass is ready for grazing in fields that were disked and planted. Drilled grass is not ready. However, fields are too wet to let cattle in the disked grass fields.”

— Steve Winters, Grenada County

Weather Summary from March 19, 2001 to March 25, 2001 for Mississippi													
District/Station	Air Temperature					Precipitation				4 Inch Soil Temperature			Avg Pan Evap
	Max	Min	Avg	Norm	DFN	One Week	DFN	Rain Days	Four Weeks	Max	Min	Avg	
1. Upper Delta													
Clarksdale	73	33	52			0.07		1	5.40				
Cleveland	74	32	52	54	-2	0.00	-1.26	0	3.87	52	39	45	0.13
Tunica	74	32	52	56	-4	0.04	-1.22	1	4.64	52	39	45	0.13
Extreme/Average													
2. North-Central													
Holly Springs						0.16	-1.17	2					
Memphis	73	33	51	55	-4	0.00	-1.26	0	2.67				
Oxford	75	28	50	53	-3	0.35	-0.96	2	3.82				
Extreme/Average	75	28	51	55	-4	0.17	-1.16	1	3.25				
3. Northeast													
Booneville	69	30	49	54	-5	0.84	-0.60	2	2.98				
Corinth	71	30	49	54	-5	0.70	-0.63	2	2.59				
Iuka	69	30	45			1.51		2	3.65				
Pontotoc						0.69	-0.71	2	4.89				0.16
Tupelo	71	32	50	56	-6	0.72	-0.67	2	4.26				
Verona	72	34	51			1.02		2	4.89	64	36	51	0.19
Extreme/Average	72	30	49	55	-6	0.91	-0.49	2	3.88	64	36	51	0.18
4. Lower Delta													
Belzoni													
Greenwood	76	35	53	57	-4	0.14	-1.19	2	6.37				
Rolling Fork	76	37	54	57	-3	0.39	-0.95	2	9.34	75	50	60	0.13
Stoneville	75	35	53	56	-3	0.17	-1.02	2	6.89	69	43	54	
Yazoo City	77	36	52	59	-7	0.64	-0.79	2	8.82				
Extreme/Average	77	35	53	58	-5	0.34	-0.99	2	7.86	75	43	57	0.13
5. Central													
Carthage	77	35	52	57	-5	0.52	-0.88	3	9.54				
Jackson	76	36	53	59	-6	0.63	-0.70	2	10.17				
Winona	74	29	48	54	-6	0.34	-1.06	3	6.91				
Extreme/Average	77	29	51	57	-6	0.50	-0.90	3	8.87				
6. East-Central													
Brooksville						1.17	-0.20	2		60	45	50	
Columbus	74	29	49	57	-8	1.08	-0.39	2	7.13				
State University	72	36	51	56	-5	1.35	-0.04	2	7.86	61	46	52	0.11
Extreme/Average	74	29	50	57	-7	1.20	-0.27	2	7.50	61	45	51	0.11
7. Southwest													
Crystal Springs	77	39	55			0.58		2	9.74	75	41	58	
Natchez	74	36	55	62	-7	0.34	-1.12	3	12.84				
Oakley	79	37	55	58	-3	0.97	-0.42	1	10.59	74	49	60	
Vicksburg	77	38	55			0.45		1	11.12				
Extreme/Average	79	36	55	60	-5	0.59	-0.81	2	11.07	75	41	59	
8. South-Central													
Columbia						0.51	E-0.87	2	9.00				
McComb	76	36	55	60	-5	0.15	-1.24	3	11.07				
Extreme/Average	76	36	55	60	-5	0.33	-1.07	3	10.04				
9. Southeast													
Beaumont						0.77		3	12.04				
Hattiesburg	77	38	55	60	-5	0.43	-0.96	2	10.36				
Laurel	77	38	54	59	-5	0.61	-0.72	2	13.06				
Meridian	75	35	51	58	-7	0.83	-0.71	4	8.44				
Newton	76	35	51	57	-6	0.86	-0.54	3	8.35	55	43	49	0.11
Extreme/Average	77	35	53	59	-6	0.68	-0.77	3	10.05	55	43	49	0.11
10. Coastal													
Bay St Louis	79	38	57			0.45		2	9.33				
Biloxi AFB	72	45	56			0.43		4	7.96				
Gulfport	72	42	55	63	-8	0.35	-0.78	2	9.87				
Pascagoula	77	37	55			0.06		3	8.81				
Poplarville	78	39	56	61	-5	0.04	-1.29	2	11.16	76	51	61	0.19
Extreme/Average	79	37	56	62	-6	0.27	-1.01	3	9.43	76	51	61	0.19
State	79	28	52	58	-6	0.54	-0.84	2	8.00	76	36	54	0.13

DFN = Departure from Normal.  
"E" = Includes Estimated Daily Data.